

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 75-119 are pending in the application, with 75, 86, 97, and 109 being the independent claims. Claims 78, 89, 99, 102, 109, and 115 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding objections and rejections.

Objections to the Claims

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 99 and 115 because the phrase, "the resonant structure" lacked proper antecedent basis. Claims 99 and 115 have been amended to correct the informalities. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 75, 76, 78-87, 89-100, 102-110, and 112-119, under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by Long (U.S. Patent No. 6,026,286). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Long does not teach or suggest, among other features, the interconnections recited in the "wherein" clauses of the pending claims. For example, claim 75 recites, among other features, a resonant structure having a first port coupled to a second port of a switching device, and an RF source signal coupled to the first port of the resonant structure. The Examiner cites elements 510 and 513 in FIG. 5 of Long, as resonant structures, and elements 516, 520, and 526 as switching devices. In FIG. 5 of Long, an RF signal R_{fin} is coupled to a terminal of elements 510 and 513. This terminal is not, however, coupled to any of the alleged switching devices 516, 520, or 526. For at least this reason, it is respectfully submitted that Long neither teaches nor suggests, claim 75. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 75 is requested.

Claim 86 also recites, among other features, a resonant structure having a first port coupled to a second port of a switching device, and an RF source signal coupled to the first port of the resonant structure. Thus, claim 86 is patentable for at least the reasons provided above with respect to claim 75. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 86 is requested.

Claim 97 recites, among other features, an RF source signal electrically coupled to a first port of a first switching device and to a first port of a second switching device. In FIG. 5 of Long, however, the RF signal RFin is not “electrically coupled” to first and second switching devices, as recited in claim 97. Instead, any interaction between the RF signal RFin and the switching devices in the circuit of FIG. 5 is an inductive interaction through the balun 513. For at least these reasons, Long does not teach or suggest claim 97. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 97 is requested.

Claim 109 recites, among other features, an RF source signal electrically coupled to a first port of a switching device. For at least the reasons provided above with respect to claim 97, Long does not teach or suggest claim 109. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 109 is requested.

The rejected dependent claims are patentable for at least the reasons provided above with respect to their associated independent claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the dependent claims is requested.

Other Matters

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 77, 88, 101, and 111 recite allowable subject matter.

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that the IDS filed January 18, 2003 fails to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2). Rule 1.98(a)(2) is directed to provision of legible copies of cited documents. Applicants provided copies of the 29 cited documents with the IDS, as evidenced by a the enclosed copy of our postcard bearing the OIPE receipt stamp dated December 18, 2002. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the IDS and indicate his consideration by signing the

appropriate spaces in the PTO Form 1449s.

Claims 78, 89, and 102 are amended to relate the apertures to the control signal. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Claim 109 is amended to recite a connection to the load. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

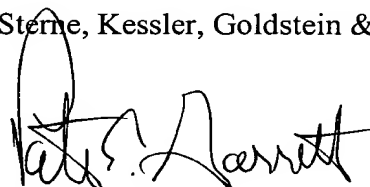
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding objections and rejections.

Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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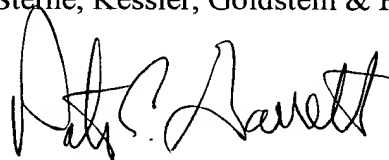
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